



the COMPASS

Your guide to Italy and beyond

March 6, 2009

Aviano Air Base, Italy

Hiking through Fregona caves

pgs. 10-11

The quest to find David

pg. 14

Take a Trip With ITT: Budapest, Zagreb,
Castles of Bavaria and more *pg. 8*



Welcome!

Senior Airman Lindsay Vincent, 31st Medical Operations Squadron, checks the vital signs of newborn baby Marco Taylor at the Aviano Clinic's multi-service unit/labor and delivery wing. Airman Vincent monitors newborns during their first few days of life to ensure they are adopting well to their new environment.

Flybys

Soggiorno office hours

The Soggiorno office is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to noon and Friday from 1:30-4:30 p.m. The office is located in the Consolidated Support Center across from the Dragon Fitness Center outdoor running track.

Asian-Pacific Heritage Month

The Asian-Pacific Heritage Month committee is looking for volunteers to assist in its upcoming month-long celebration in May. The next meeting is March 6 at 3 p.m. at the Airmen and Family Readiness Center. To volunteer or for more details, call Staff Sgt. Robert Ybay at 632-4554 or 333-972-2509, or send e-mail to robert.ybay@aviano.af.mil.

Palace Chase Briefing

The next Palace Chase briefing is March 18 at 10 a.m. in the new consolidated support center Building 1413, Room

136. The Palace Chase program allows both officer and enlisted airmen the opportunity to separate early from the active-duty Air Force and join an Air Reserve component. The briefing covers all aspects of the Palace Chase process. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Ricky Young, Air Force Reserve in-service recruiter at 632-4919.

AAAC meeting

The next Aviano Airmen's Advisory Council meeting is March 10 at 3 p.m. at the La Bella Vista Club. All senior airmen and below are welcome to attend as well as any NCOs interested in observing. For more information, e-mail aaac@aviano.af.mil.

Civil Service job opportunities

Those interested in available civil service job opportunities at Aviano Air Base, Italy, should check out www.usajobs.gov.

See Flybys, Page 5

Cover photo by Staff Sgt. Patrick Dixon

the COMPASS

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31st Fighter Wing**
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Deadline info: The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Send all information by e-mail to the Compass at avianonews@aviano.af.mil. Faxed articles will not be accepted. The public affairs office is located in Bldg. 1413, Rm. 113. The Compass staff can be reached at Ext. 7555.

Keeping your children safe

By Col. Patrick Storms
31st Medical Group commander

Parents periodically ask why we request that non-patient children not be brought to medical and dental appointments at the hospital or flight medicine clinic. As a parent, you are used to being on the lookout for danger in your home and your child's play area. We, too, are concerned for your child's safety, and no matter how well-behaved your child is, there are inherent dangers in the medical environment.

Unsupervised children can fall from chairs or can be injured by supply carts, electrical hazards, or from the risks of play in an unsupervised area. Children brought into exam rooms are at even greater risk from exposed medical equipment, needles and sharp instruments. Our staff is often tightly focused on the care being delivered to our patient, and is therefore unable to offer adequate supervision to a child when the parent is distracted by medical/dental examination or treatment.

In an article from the Institute for Safe Medicine Practices, a case was reviewed where a mother brought her child in for "ear tubes" to aid in healing chronic ear infections. When she arrived, her 3-year-old non-patient child was allowed to accompany her to the exam room. The doctor gathered his medical supplies and placed them on the counter. One of the supplies was a cup of phenol, a strong chemical that the doctor planned to use to numb the ear drum. In the blink of an eye (as is often the case with children), the child was able to grab the cup of phenol off of the counter and drink it. The child received serious

"Children brought into exam rooms are at even greater risk from exposed medical equipment, needles, and sharp instruments."

chemical burns from this incident and had to undergo two procedures to evaluate his throat and breathing passages.

Recognizing the inherent dangers the medical environment poses to unsupervised children, we must request that alternate childcare arrangements be made for children younger than 12 when coming to the facility for an appointment. We also request that alternate childcare arrangements be made for a child of any age with special needs or known behavioral problems. The alternate arrangements could include use of the Child Development Center, the Parent Co-op, use of your family support plan, or assistance from friends in your squadron. If no childcare arrangements can be made, our staff will be happy to assist in rescheduling your appointment to a time that allows you to accommodate your childcare needs.

We realize that juggling childcare responsibilities with medical and dental appointments can occasionally be frustrating and inconvenient, but our concern for the safety of our patients and visitors is paramount. Please help us create the safest possible healthcare environment by attending to your child's supervision needs in advance of your clinic visit.

Flybys

gov. Job benefits include job security, a retirement plan, sick leave, annual leave and 10 federal holidays. Visit http://opm.gov/video_library/Recruitment/index.asp. For more information, call Bessie Edwards of the Aviano Civilian Personnel Office at 632-4058.

Thrift Shop closure

The base Thrift Shop will be closed March 12-30 while it moves to its new location in Area 2. It will reopen with its normal hours Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MBA Degree Offered

University of Phoenix offers a new MBA ground class starting March 26. All master level classes are offered at the Aviano Education Building in Area 1. For more information, call Tara Carlsrud at 632-5139.

Chapel staff now in Area F

The 31st Fighter Wing Chaplain Corps offices have moved from the chapel in Area 1 to Building 1467 in Area F, located in the same building as the Italian Mensa Dining Hall. The office area is located four doors down from the Mensa on the left side of the front of the building. The Chapel building itself will remain open as programs are scheduled in the chapel, Building 172. For chapel assistance, call 632-5211.

Mr. Chuck Underwood 9 March 1300-1600

Come hear Chuck Underwood, author of the
Generation Imperative.

Title of workshop: Generational workforce
diversity and leadership strategy training

Location: Mass briefing facility

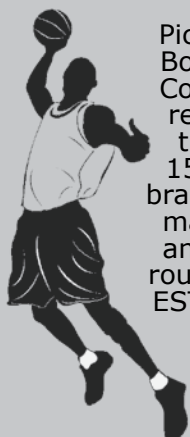


Reserve a seat today!



For information contact Airman & Family Readiness Center
632-5407

MARCH MADNESS



Pick up a game piece at the Aviano Bowling Center and the Alpine Golf Course (no purchase required) and register on-line using the code on the game piece. Then on March 15 you can fill in your tournament bracket selections. Up to 10 brackets may be played. Picks can be made and changed, but final picks for all rounds must be submitted by 6 a.m. EST, March 19. Participants must be 18 years or older.

Fill your bracket from March 15-19, 6 a.m. EST!
<http://airforcemarchmadness.com>

PRIZES

1st Place – A trip for four to a 2010 Final Four Game for 3 days/2 nights, hotel, air travel, car rental, game tickets and \$1,000 spending money. If the winner or immediate family member cannot attend the trip, an alternate winner is chosen.
 2nd Place – \$5,000
 3rd Place – \$2,500
 4th Place – \$1,000
 Additional Prizes – the fifth through ninth place finishers receive NCAA Pop-A-Shots (indoor arcade style basketball shooting game system)

Airman and Family Readiness

0434-30-5407, DSN 632- 5407 | Flightline, Bldg. 1431

Spouse It Up

March 18, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Theme is St. Patrick's Day and food will be Irish cuisine. Hosted by 31 LRS Spouses Group and 31 FSS Fan Club. Come on down and play the Price is Right game and win prizes.

Basic Financial Planning & Investing

March 30, 2-4 p.m.

This money management class includes goal setting, financial planning, credit reports, and debt management. Individuals leave the class with important tools necessary to become financially sound.

Intelligence Career Seminar

March 20, 1-4 p.m.

Looking for a new career? The A&FRC is hosting an Intelligence Career Seminar for the largest of the defense industry and national security recruiting firms. Call to sign up.

Chuck Underwood

March 9, 1-4 p.m.

Title of workshop: Generational workforce diversity and leadership strategy training.
 Location: Mass Briefing Facility

Key Spouse Meeting

March 11, 10-11:30 a.m.

Topic of discussion include: Jeopardy (Helping Agency) game, passports, chapel services and built to lease housing.

Sponsorship Training

March 6, 2-3 p.m.

The training reviews the basic requirements of sponsorship and provides useful resources to better assist the newcomer.

HRO

0434-30-5747, DSN 632-5747 | Area 2, Bldg. 256

www.usafejobs.com

Alpine Golf Course

Cook, Recreation Aid

Arts & Crafts Center

Sales Clerk

Aviano Youth Program

Cook, Child and Youth Program Assistant

Bowling Center

Cook, Recreation Aid

Child Development Center

Child and Youth Development Program Assistant

Fitness Center

Recreation Aid (Temp)

La Bella Vista Club

Bartender, Club Operations Assistant, Materials Handler, Waiter, Cook

Lodging

Custodial Worker, Guest Services Representative (Temp)

Outdoor Recreation

Recreation Aid

Marketing

Illustrator

School Age Program

Child and Youth Program Assistant, Child and Youth Program Technician

Wood Skills Center

Recreation Assistant

Do you have experience in mural painting? We are looking for individuals with this expertise. If interested, please contact 632-5307.

FSS events

Pages 6, 8, 13, 15, 16

COMMANDER

Maj. Jason Janaros

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Jude Sorg

MARKETING DEPARTMENT

Marketing Director

Annick Schoenthal

Marketing & Advertising Assistant

Sylvia Moon

Publicist

Racheal Calhoun



MARCH INFORMATION, TICKETS & TRAVEL

6-8 March

Rome Express
\$89.00 Deadline 02 March

07 March

Guided Florence
\$84.00 Deadline 02 March

7-8 March

Rogaska Spa & Crystal Factory
\$159.00 Deadline 23 February

13-15 March

Polish Pottery Shopping
\$149.00 Deadline 09 March

14 March

Guided San Marino
\$69.00 Deadline 09 March

14-15 March

Budapest
\$219.00 Deadline 02 March

21 March

Zagreb: Capital of Croatia
\$64.00 Deadline 16 March

21 March

Venice & Gondola Ride
\$64.00 Deadline 16 March

21 March

Castles of Bavaria
\$95.00 Deadline 16 March

28 March

Pisa & Bologna
\$79.00 Deadline 23 March

28 March

Guided Asolo & Bassano Del Grappa
\$59.00 Deadline 23 March

28-29 March

Cinque Terre
\$324.00 Deadline 18 March



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ITT
632-3107



Trolling through Fregona—a hike



A wooden walkway leads visitors into the Caglieron Caves on the outskirts of the town of Fregona. Numerous paths lead through the caves and down into a gorge in the valley.

Story by
Staff Sgt. Justin Weaver
photos by
Staff Sgt. Patrick Dixon

Fans of the Lord of the Rings might feel like they've just discovered the entrance to the Kingdom of Mordor surprisingly close to Aviano. Thankfully, you won't need your Elvin sword or a side-kick hobbit to traverse the terrain — hiking boots will do just fine.

Located just 45 minutes from Aviano on the outskirts of Fregona is the Caglieron Caves near Vittorio Veneto. An old, intricate wooden walkway follows the series of caves along a deep gorge. Through the gorge, runs a stream where visitors will find numerous waterfalls cascading along the route.

The easiest way to get to Fregona is to follow the Mountain Highway past Budoia. As you enter

Fregona, you'll see brown road signs for Grotte del Caglieron. Once there, you'll see several parking lots located directly above the caves. Most of the parking lots are paid parking and cost 1.50 euro to leave your car for the day.

Across the road from the car park is a long, winding path leading you into the Caglieron caves and past several waterfalls. Along the walls of the path, various layers of limestone and sandstone can be seen. Most of the gorge was created naturally, but parts of it were excavated in the 1500s for use in building materials.

On the other side of the gorge, hikers can rest their feet at a tavern next to a picturesque mill and have a sandwich or café before venturing back

onto the scenic trail.

Families with children can keep them in a hilly area suitable for strolling. The gorge could easily be a playground.

Near the end of the path, a church carved into the rock. It is several stories high. Lit votive candles are placed in niches, as well as a small outcome on behalf of health.

Overall, the hike is a day trip in close proximity. All, you just might

er's paradise



ous waterfalls line the trail as a stream flows



trail.

a small children should plan to
hiking backpack. The area is not
llers and the guardrails beside the
ly swallow up a small child.
of the trail, you'll find a small
ut of the rock face of a cliff. Inside
ntues, a bench and votive candles.
es refer to a promise to pray for
l as a wish or desire for a certain
alf of someone, such as recovery of

area offers a peaceful and relaxing
proximity to Aviano. And best of
ght run into a hobbit.



Alpine Golf Course

0434-30-7386, DSN 632-7386 | Flightline, Bldg. 1391

FREE

Junior Clinic

March 7, 2-3:30 p.m.

Ladies' Morning Clinic

March 12, 10-11 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon Lessons

March 14, 1-2 p.m.

Ladies' Afternoon Clinic

March 26, 2-3 p.m.

Advance sign-ups are not necessary for FREE classes

March Madness Golf Tournament

March 21, 8:30 a.m. Shotgun
Each player will receive a hot meal at conclusion of 18-hole tournament. Door prizes, closest-to-pin, long drive contest; open to the first 64 golfers to pay \$25 entry fee. At the end of the event, players names will be randomly paired up with a team in the NCAA Basketball "March Madness" Tournament for a chance to win great prizes. Deadline is COB March 19

Family Golf Sundays

Every week at 2 p.m. discounted rates for green fees and rental fees are offered. This part of the golf week is reserved for families and pace of play will be relaxed for the program participants. Tee time reservations for the upcoming weekend may be made starting at 7 a.m. the Wednesday prior.

Arts & Crafts

0434-30-2989, DSN 632-2989 | Flightline, Bldg. 1464

Scrapbook Day

March 7, 28, 11 a.m.

Jewelry Making Class

Every Tuesday and Thursday 10-11:30 a.m.

Come create a necklace, earrings and bracelet. Cost is \$40 per each 1 1/2 hour class



Quilting Class

March 9, 16, 23, 10:30 a.m.

Framing Class

March 11, 10:30 a.m.

March 21, 11:30 a.m.

March 25, 3:30 p.m.

Paper Cutting Class

Every Thursday at 4 p.m.

Bowling Center

0434-30-7487, DSN 632-7487 | Area 1, Bldg. 179

12 Days of St. Patty's Day

Receive prizes and discounts from March 6-17



St. Patty's Weekend Green Fever Madness

March 13, 14

Prizes, karaoke, specials, and lucky times!

Karaoke

March 14, 28

Survivor Tournament

March 14, 6 p.m. to midnight
\$20.00 buy in. 60 people max! Sign up today!

Wingman Wednesday

All day Wednesday, roll some games with your wingman. Bring in your wingman and card to bowl for \$1 a game and \$1 for shoe rental

Five Buck Thursday

All day Thursday receive 3 hours of bowling for \$5 including shoe rental

Cosmic Bowling

Every Friday and Saturday 9 p.m. to midnight

Child Development Center

0434-30-8246, DSN 632-8246 | Area 1, Bldg. 174

0434-30-5199, DSN 632-5199 | Flightline, Bldg. 1476

Parents Night Out

April 3

CDC Flightline; Cost \$12 per child. Deadline to register: April 1

Give Parents A Break

March 20

CDC Area 1; By referral or \$3 an hour. Deadline to register: March 18

One-On-One Family Sessions

You may contact child and youth behavioral military and family life consultants for FREE and ANONYMOUS conferences.

Brown Bagging It

March 10 - CDC 1

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Topic: Working as a team (parents/teachers)

March 18- Flightline

March 24 - CDC 1

Topic: Feelings-Are they all ok?



Trying to find David

By Joyce Costello
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Living in Italy means many of my friends and relatives want to visit me so they can explore Tuscany with a cheap guide and free place to stay. I'll visit Cinque Terra or Venice willingly, but I always sluff off when they want to go to Florence. Typically, I'll take them to the train station, give them a cell phone and a map and wish them well.

Well, this year when my father visited, I decided to go with him so I could do a travel story about Florence. In particular, I wanted to see Michelangelo's David. Little did I know, there are more than 100 museums in Florence (which I later discovered on the Official Florence Tourism Web site) and I wasn't too sure what was where.

Upon arriving at the Santa Maria Novella train station, we made our way through the leather and street markets, around the Duomo and finally into what I believed was the Piazza Vecchia.

Huge statues of famous Italian artists and philosophers lined the street. Seeing a replica of David outside of a museum entrance with a line, I assumed we had made it to the Uffizi and promptly stood in line with my father and camera.

My father, who had seen David decades ago with my

mother, wasn't too sure we were in the right place.

"No Dad, this has got to be it," I said. "I could have sworn the original David was inside and to the left or maybe to the right."

After climbing up and down steep stairs and seeing some lovely paintings on the walls and ceilings, I was no longer sure if we would see David before breaking for lunch.

"I think we're in somebody's house," said my father.

I grumbled something incoherently as I called my co-workers cell phone.

"No, David is not at the Uffizi and it sounds like you aren't either," said my co-worker. "David is in the Academy Gallery, so your probably at David's original site in Piazza della Signoria."

At that point, I realized we weren't going to see David this time and I would have to make a special trip back later. In hindsight, I decided the next time I had friends or family wanting a guided tour of Florence, I would send them on the base Information, Tours and Recreation Florence trip.

Visit www.firenzeturismo.it, for more information.

Easiest way to see Florence: Camp Darby's ITR offers guided trips to Florence. Call DSN 633-7589 or visit ITR on www.livornomwr.com

How to get there:

Florence is a 55-minute drive on the FI-PI-LI superstrad when there is no construction.

Otherwise, take the regional train from Pisa to Floreene Santa Maria di Novella.

Where to stay:

Take advantage of Sea Pines Lodge reduced winter rates to explore Tuscany. Call 633-7225 or visit www.livornomwr.com for more information.

Civilian Personnel Office

0434-30-7307, DSN 632-7307 | Flightline, Bldg. 600

There are exciting jobs with a great future awaiting you.
Check out the job opportunities at www.usajobs.gov.
Great benefits: Job security, a great retirement plan, sick leave, annual leave and 10 Federal holidays. To better understand working for the federal government go to: http://opm.gov/video_library/Recruitment/index.asp
Any questions, feel free to call Ms. Edwards - CPO at 632-4058.



Community Center

0434-30-5479, DSN 632-5479 | Area 1, Bldg. 106

Navy Entertainment, Army Entertainment and
Armed Forces Entertainment are proud to present
"Sugarland"

March 6, 7 p.m. in Hangar 3
Free admission to all



Adult Talent Show

March 20, 8-10 p.m.
Must be 18 Years
(high school graduate or older)
Sign up by March 13

Belly Dance
Wednesdays 6:30-8 p.m.

Adult Ballet
Tuesdays and Thursdays
5:30-7 p.m.

Tiny Tap
Ages 4-7 Tuesdays
4:30-5:30 p.m.

Youth Tap
Ages 8-12 Thursdays
4:30-5:30 p.m.

Fitness & Sports Center

0434-30-7459, DSN 632-7459 | Flightline, Bldg. 1405

0434-30-7574, DSN 632-7574 | Area 2, Bldg. 240

Leapin Leprechaun 5K/10K Run/Walk

March 17, 11:30 a.m.
Wear GREEN & receive a FREE prize

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

March 21, 5 p.m.
Get your team together
and sign up

Batting Cages are NOW Open

Hours of operation Mon-Fri 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.,
Weekends 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.,
Holidays and Down Days 7 a.m. to 7 p.m..
helmets and bats (free of charge)
Tokens (vending machine)
1 token = \$1
15 balls for 1 token

Duathlon

March 28, 9 a.m.
Bike 2 Laps around base perimeter & Run
5K \$15 registration fee secures you a t-shirt
\$7 registration for children 12 & up. Medals
awarded for the top 3 finishers from each
division

Biggest Winner Combat Challenge

March 14, 9 a.m. to noon

Family Fitness Time

Area 2 Fitness Center
Every Tuesday & Thursday
8:30-10:30 a.m.

La Dolce Vita

Expanded Flight Kitchen Grab-n-Go 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Open for military personnel in uniform

La Bella Vista Club

0434-30-4303, DSN 632-4303 | Flightline, Bldg. 1404

St. Patrick's Day Bash

March 17, 6 p.m.
Club Member: Free /Non-Member: \$5
Irish Food, Live DJ, Contest, Green Beer

Family Membership Night

March 19, 5-7 p.m.
Theme: Luck of the Irish with Bingo
\$5 Club Member/ \$10 Non-Member
\$3.95 Children 6-12 FREE Children Under 6



Stephen Kellogg & Sixers Concert

March 18, 7:30 p.m. doors open
Free admission to all

Monthly Texas Hold'em

March 19, 6 p.m.
\$10 Club Member/ \$20 Non-Member
Free food, prizes for the winner

Library

0434-30-5382, DSN 632-5382 | Area 1, Bldg. 145

Library Research Database Class

March 18, 1-2 p.m.

Learn about all the great databases that the library has to offer! Our databases offer online newspapers, thousands of full-text journal articles, and even recommendations on what book to read next. Join us for this informative session and sign up for your own E-Resource Account. Registration required.

Base Library Operating Hours

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday-Sunday, Goal Days, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Holidays Closed.

Just a gentle reminder that all of the materials that are offered in the Library are for the whole base to share and enjoy. Please return all of your checked-out items clean and undamaged. Replacement costs will be incurred by the patron.



Outdoor Recreation

0434-30-8623, DSN 632-8623 | Flightline, Bldg. 1479

Grotto Gigantic Caving Trip

March 7

Cost \$25 per person. Includes transportation & entrance fee



Dolomiti Superski Ski Trip

March 21 or 22

Cost \$68 per person.
Includes transportation & lift ticket.

Map & Compass Skills Class

April 4

Age: +12 Years Old
Cost \$10 per person.
Deadline to sign up is 1 April

Aviano's Indoor Pool Lap Swim

Looking for a workout? Try the Aviano Indoor Swimming Pool. The hours of operation are: (ID card holder hours only)

Monday - Friday

6-8 a.m.

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Youth Programs

0434-30-7575, DSN 632-7575 | Area 1, Bldg. 116

Ms. Emma's Dance Classes

Classes begin March 17-18 and end April 28 and 30. There will be no classes the week of Spring Break, April 6-10.
Sign up now

Give Parents A Break

March 20, 6:30-11 p.m.

Age: 1st-6th Grade

By referral or \$3 an hour
Deadline to register: March 19



Jr. Rock Band Jam

March 27, 7-11 p.m.

Ages: 9+

\$10 YP mbrs/ \$15 Non-mbrs

Join your friends for a Rock Band Jam session. There will be prizes for top scores. Deadline to register: March 26

3-On-3 Basketball

March 20, 6:30-11 p.m.

Ages 9+

\$10 YP members/\$15 non YP members
Join your friends for a 3 on 3 basketball tournament. Teams will be picked on the night of the event. There will be prizes for the top teams. Deadline to register: March 19

Education Center

0434-30-5330, DSN 632-5330 | Area 1, Bldg. 147

Commissioning Briefing

March 19, 10 a.m., Bldg 147
Any enlisted Airmen interested in pursuing a commission should plan to attend.

Study Skills Workshop

March 26, 9 a.m. to noon, Bldg. 147. Anyone who wants to learn study skills, test taking techniques, note taking and reading comprehension strategies is invited to attend.



Education Fair

March 13

For more information contact the Education Center.

**Term IV classes
Begins March 22
Registration is ongoing!**